

REMARKS

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. The subject case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1) (a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Applicants respectfully contend that the application is allowable and a favorable response from the Examiner is earnestly solicited. The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below if such would advance prosecution of the case.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below, if such would advance prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
David Rubin  
Reg. No. 40,314  
Attorney for Applicants

Merck & Co., Inc.  
P.O. Box 2000  
Rahway, NJ 07065-0907  
(732) 594-2675

Date: February 7, 2006